but that of our Baldpates still remains a mystery.

Of the upland gamebirds the Mountain Partridge and Oregon Ruffed Grouse show a slight, but certain, increase over last year. This is very satisfactory indeed, as both species had seemed doomed to almost certain and complete extermination in this section. Hungarian Partridges also have been doing fairly well, although the ground is not especially well suited to their needs. The California Quail, or so-called Valley Quail are holding their own well, but the Ring-necked Pheasants showed a decrease in numbers. The Bobwhites and Sooty Grouse are exceedingly scarce, in fact if it were not for the Pierce County Game Reserve it is almost certain that the Sooty Grouse would be wiped out altogether.

It is not often that one collects his best set of eggs for the season in November, yet this is what happened on November 7th, when Mr. Warburton and I went down to change the position of a couple of the boxes I had set out for Hooded Mergansers. As a preliminary it may be of interest to state that a tree, on which was another box, had recently been cut down. Examination showed this to contain down and eggshells that proved the Mergansers had raised a brood in it in 1919. We set this box up in another tree not far from the original site, and proceeded to a box set up in a dead tree in the middle of the lake. This had never seemed of the slightest use, so we decided to put it somewhere else. However, to our extreme surprise and gratification we found it to contain a most beautiful set of eleven eggs that the mergansers had very obligingly deserted earlier in the season, doubtless owing to numerous trout-fishermen in the immediate vicinity. These eggs were only slightly dried and were prepared into fine specimens for the collection. The other box was nailed up on a lone fir that stands on a nearby hillside, some three hundred yards from the water, and examination showed it to be the site of the second attempt of the birds to raise a brood. This time they had been successful, as an abundance of down and eggshells proved beyond a doubt. Three years ago we took a set of ten well incubated eggs from another of the boxes, and this year showed the gratifying results of a total of four boxes used by these birds out of six that were set out. All of these boxes were placed in different types of locality, showing that these birds are not especially particular as to a nesting site. It seems evident, however, that they are not partial to the company of human beings around the nesting cavity.

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"Tumors" in Jackrabbits.

In the intermountain country the California Jackrabbit (Lepus Californicus) is a common and conspicuous member of the fauna. In practically all seasons of the year it is a common observation that a large per cent of their representatives have curious swellings, locally known as "tumors." These are from about half the size of an egg down to the size of a marble or smaller. Those that have come under my observation are usually located on the side of the neck or in the flanks, and are very soft and flabby. If dissected they appear to be thin membranous sacks filled with a thin watery fluid with one or two small white pimple-like masses about the size of a pin-head or smaller. Some years ago while in Idaho where these large rabbits are very abundant, I became curious to know the cause of these swellings. I dissected out a few and sent them to the Bureau of the Biological Survey in Washington. The reply was exceedingly interesting. I was informed that they represented the "bladder-worm," or larval stage of a tapeworm, the Taenia serialis as I remember, the life history of which is briefly as follows. This larva along with the jack-rabbit host was eaten by a dog or coyote and it then became attached to the intestines of the host by means of small hooks located in the head. Here it matured into the adult form and developed egg segments which upon maturity, dropped off and were ejected from the animal. These eggs were washed into water or upon leaves or stalks which were eaten by rabbits. Upon passing into the stomach the eggs hatched out and the larva, burrowing through the walls of the digestive tract, lodged in the connective tissue where their subsequent growth produced the "tumors" in question and the life cycle again began.

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